

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 6 and 11, cancel claims 5 and 10, without prejudice, and add new claims 21 and 22.

1. (currently amended) A tape measure comprising:

a tape measure housing;

a first tape having a first measurement scale thereupon;

a second tape having a second measurement scale thereupon;

said first tape being stored in within a cavity in said tape measure housing and being extendable from said cavity; and

said second tape being internally stored in a guide within said tape measure housing and being removable therefrom.

2. (currently amended) The tape measure of claim 1, wherein said second, removable tape is fully removable from said tape measure housing.

3. (original) The tape measure of claim 1, wherein said second tape is marked with at least one engineering or architectural dimensional scale.

4. (original) The tape measure of claim 2, further comprising a tape lock lever for locking said first tape into a desired extended position, thereby preventing said resilient force from bringing said first tape back into said storage position.

5. (canceled) The tape measure of claim 1, further comprising a protractor movably mounted within a space or compartment on a side of said tape measure housing, said protractor bearing angle markers inscribed thereon, said angle markers being relative to a bottom surface of said tape measure when said protractor is in a storage position.
6. (original) The tape measure of claim 1, further comprising a clip, said clip having an elastic member extending along a side of said tape measure housing for securing said tape measure housing to a surface.
7. (original) The tape measure according to claim 1, wherein said first measurement scale is the same as said second measurement scale.
8. (original) The tape measure according to claim 1, wherein said first measurement scale differs from said second measurement scale.
9. (original) The tape measure according to claim 8, wherein at least one of said first measurement scale and said second measurement scale comprises at least one engineering or architectural scale.
10. (canceled) The tape measure according to claim 1, further comprising:
a shock absorber assembly being located where said first tape and said second tape exit

said tape measure;

at least one locking protrusion in said shock absorber assembly;

at least one indentation on an end member of said second tape; and

said at least one locking protrusion mating with an interference fit and securing said at least one indentation when said second tape is in a storage position in said guide in said tape measure, thereby preventing accidental removal of said second tape.

11. (currently amended) The ~~measure~~ tape measure of claim 1, wherein said second tape is formed of a bendable material so that it can be received and stored within a non-linear tape guide within said tape measure housing.

12. (original) A tape measure comprising:

a first tape having a first measurement scale thereupon;

a second tape having a second measurement scale thereupon;

said first tape being stored in a cavity in said tape measure and being extendable from said cavity;

said second tape being stored in a guide within said tape measure and being removable therefrom;

a shock absorber assembly having a first opening where said first tape exits said tape measure and a second opening where said second tape exits said tape measure;

at least one locking protrusion in said shock absorber assembly;

at least one indentation on an end member of said second tape; and

said at least one locking protrusion mating a securing said at least one indentation when said second tape is in a storage position in said guide in said tape measure, thereby preventing accidental removal of said second tape.

13. (original) The tape measure of claim 12, further comprising a tape lock lever for locking said first tape into a desired extended position, thereby preventing said resilient force from bringing said first tape back into said storage position.

14. (original) The tape measure of claim 12, further comprising a protractor mounted on a side of said tape measure, said protractor having angles inscribed therein, said angles being relative to a bottom surface of said tape measure when said protractor is in a storage position.

15. (original) The tape measure of claim 12, further comprising a clip, said clip having an elastic member extending along a side of said tape measure for securing said tape measure to a supporting object.

16. (original) The tape measure according to claim 12, wherein said first measurement scale is the same as said second measurement scale.

17. (original) The tape measure according to claim 12, wherein said first measurement scale

differs from said second measurement scale.

18. (original) The tape measure according to claim 17, wherein at least one of said first measurement scale and said second measurement scale has at least one engineering scale.

19. (original) A dual tape measuring tool comprising:

- a first tape having a first measurement scale thereupon;

- a second tape having a second measurement scale thereupon;

- said first tape being stored in a cavity in said measuring tool and being removable therefrom;

- said guide being located along at least a partial circumference of said cavity;

- a tape retracting means for providing a resilient force on said first tape to bring said first tape back into a storage position when extended from said cavity;

- a tape lock lever for locking said first tape into a desired extended position, thereby preventing said resilient force from bringing said first tape back into said storage position;

- a shock absorber assembly having a first opening where said first tape exits said measuring tool and a second opening where said second tape exits said measuring tool;

- at least one locking protrusion in said shock absorber assembly;

- at least one indentation on an end member of said second tape;

- said at least one locking protrusion mating and securing said at least one indentation when said second tape is in a storage position in said guide in said measuring tool, thereby

preventing accidental removal of said second tape; and

a clip having an elastic member extending along a side of said measuring tool for securing said measuring tool to a surface.

20. (original) The dual tape measuring tool according to claim 19, wherein at least one of said first measurement scale and said second measurement scale includes at least one engineering scale.

21. (new) A tape measure comprising:

a first tape having a first measurement scale thereupon;

a second tape having a second measurement scale thereupon;

said first tape being stored in a cavity in said tape measure and being extendable from said cavity;

said second tape being stored in a guide within said tape measure and being removable therefrom; and

further comprising a protractor movably mounted within a space or compartment on a side of said tape measure housing, said protractor bearing angle markers inscribed thereon, said angle markers being relative to a bottom surface of said tape measure when said protractor is in a storage position.

22. (new) A tape measure comprising:

- a first tape having a first measurement scale thereupon;
- a second tape having a second measurement scale thereupon;
- said first tape being stored in a cavity in said tape measure and being extendable from said cavity;
- said second tape being stored in a guide within said tape measure and being removable therefrom;
- a shock absorber assembly being located where said first tape and said second tape exit said tape measure;
- at least one locking protrusion in said shock absorber assembly;
- at least one indentation on an end member of said second tape; and
- said at least one locking protrusion mating with an interference fit and securing said at least one indentation when said second tape is in a storage position in said guide in said tape measure, thereby preventing accidental removal of said second tape.